

Through Zion's Window

July 2019



Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it. (Exodus 20:8-11)

Dear friends in Christ,

I remember as a child in elementary school, summer days took on a totally different rhythm and feel. There was time for play, for imagination, even for boredom. As I got older summers meant work – more expectations at home for yard work and chores, earning money for hobbies doing work for friends and neighbors and, in high school, getting paying jobs. But still, even with all that, there was still time for play and imagination and sometimes still boredom. But now, as an adult, I find far too little time for play, to imagine and I'm usually too busy to even be bored and I almost miss that too! Taking time to just be seems more and more a thing of the distant past. I find myself wondering, when did I become too busy, or too important, or too idiotic to take a break – to enjoy a Sabbath rest?

In our present American experience, most of us aren't very good about keeping Sabbath (notice I did not say the Sabbath. I realize that many of us have jobs that don't allow us to have specific days off consistently.) For some of us taking a day off is a luxury we think we can neither afford nor want to attempt. It's like my dad used to say, "There's nothing harder than doing nothing." We've become human-doers rather than human-beings. Rarely do we take the time just to be together, to sit and talk and enjoy one another's company. We fill each and all our days with busy-ness and, unwittingly, inflict this busy-ness on other people (store clerks and waitresses, cooks, soccer coaches, etc.)

In scripture, God invites us into a different way. It's a way that begins with the first creation story (Genesis 1). God creates for six days and, after all is created, God takes a Sabbath rest. Much later, when God gives Moses the "Ten Words" (Exodus 20) to shape the people's lives as they leave slavery and enter the Promised Land (they are never called "Commandments" in this text), one of the words is "...remember the Sabbath day..." This word is clearly intended to shape and order both individual and community lives.

Not only is Sabbath intended for our welfare, it is clearly intended for the welfare of everyone and everything in our household – our children, our servants, the resident aliens (in a small town community I think that means anyone whose family hasn't lived here at least 2 generations) and even the critters in our care. Everyone and everything is invited to take a rest from their labors, mirroring God's pattern from the first.

I invite you this summer to consider and reflect on Sabbath – the ways we keep it and the ways we don't. How can we benefit from a more intentional keeping of it? How do we cause harm to ourselves, our children, and others when we ignore it? What happens when we don't model healthy self-care? Or are biblical principles simply out of touch with the times and there are no bad effects if we disregard Sabbath? I hope you take time to talk about this with others; reflecting and deepening your faith understanding and practices. And I hope you share with me your discernments.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Doug

Adult Education



Dear friends in Christ, even though we are still waiting for summer it is time to start planning our Fall schedule.

One of the questions I am getting asked a lot is about Adult Education opportunities. I am hoping to schedule two Adult Education forums each week or every other week. I am considering holding one forum on a mid-morning or early afternoon during the week (Tuesday or Wednesday) and another forum either Sunday after worship at Cross or a weekday evening (Wednesday or Thursday). One of the forums would be a study of a book of the bible and the other forum would be focused on faith-formation and faith-based discussions of current events.

Please think about what you would like to delve into. I would like your feedback and suggestions for topics and timing of the forums. Please send me an email or drop me a note if you have other suggestions for Adult Education that you would like me to consider. In early August we will have a short survey to help further define the subject matter and schedule.

Thanks

Pastor Doug



**God's work
Our hands**

God's work. Our hands.

We're here to minister, to serve. What better way to use our volunteer abilities than to get out there?! Your help is appreciated and needed.

August 6: MS Bike Ride – Carrie Wendorf has ways you can help at Zion's rest/hospitality stop along the MS bike route. She can always use more workers and donors. Remember: August 4 there is no worship service at Zion.

Also, if you'd like to volunteer but stay in Ashippun on August 6, we might have a "plarn-ing" activity for men, women and kids! If interested, contact Sandy.

August 5-10: Churchwide Assembly at the Wisconsin Center, Milwaukee – The Greater Milwaukee Synod is this year's host. The Synod is seeking 400 volunteers for a wide variety of tasks, some starting in July (packing registration gift bags) to a myriad of very interesting tasks throughout the run of the conference. Check it out at www.cwa19.org, or see the flyer on the bulletin board in the Narthex for a short list of ops, or check with Sandy.

Sept. 8 is the synod-wide "God's work. Our hands" initiative. Check the web site at www.milwaukeeesyndod.org for more information if you feel you want to take on additional ways to serve. You're the one with the hands, God's the one with the opportunities!



Worship

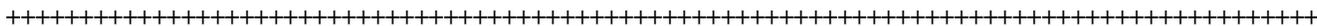
at

Harnischfeger Park

On Sunday, June 23rd, we have been invited to worship with Cross at Harnischfeger Park. A potluck lunch will be served after, Zion has been asked to bring hot dishes and beverages. (Carrie Wendorf will bring the beverages to be donated by Zion). If the congregation can bring hot dishes/sides (plug-ins will be available for crockpots) that would be appreciated.

Cross is also looking for a couple people who can help setup chairs, if you are able, please be at the park at 9 am.

Zion will not have an 8:30 am worship service on this day.



Zion will again participate in the Ecumenical Worship service during the Ashippun Fireman's Picnic on Sunday, July 14th at 10 am. Remember to bring your lawn chair.

ECUMENICAL

Worship



Zion will not have an 8:30 am worship service this day.



Loss: On Friday, May 31st, we lost Bill Jaeger at the age of 84. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends during this difficult time. A funeral service for Bill will be held on Saturday, June 29, 2019 at 12:00 PM with a visitation for family and friends starting at 11:00 AM at Zion.

There will be a time of fellowship and reflection to follow the service in the church fellowship hall. The family has asked and would greatly appreciate it, if you could help with making salads and desserts for the fellowship time.



Evangelism News

July 2019

Ashippun Bread Basket

The student meal program ended with the school year, but thanks to your generosity, the pantry shelves were filled to help feed the children.

Please continue to give to help those in need.

Piggly Wiggly Receipts

Your grocery receipts totaled **\$5,473.29** for the months of May/June. By the simple act of dropping your receipts into the box in the Narthex table, you have continued to support Zion youth activities. (Piggly Wiggly donates 1% of your total receipts to the youth account.) Thanks a whole bunch! Keep up the good work.

Time for a Change

After reviewing the past three events held by the Zion Artisan & Vendor Sale, the committee has decided to discontinue the event. However, we know we offered an outstanding lunch and would like to serve it at another function. If you would like to get involved in bringing back the lunch and a new fun affair, please contact Doreen. Date and event ideas are welcome!

Doreen Schultz

Evangelism Committee

God's Work, Our Hands/Day of Service

The first weekend of August is dedicated to serving the community in which we live. Here are some ways you can serve.

Once again the MS Bike Tour will roll down the road. Volunteers are needed. Please contact **Carrie Wendorf**.

A meal will be served at the Ashippun Apartments. Contact **Doreen or Wendy** if you would like to join them.

Explore other opportunities,

- ◆ Visiting with the elderly
- ◆ Helping a neighbor
- ◆ Delivering a meal or cookies to someone under the weather
- ◆ Picking up litter

Love your neighbors and make your community a better place. Now is the time for you to take action!



Ashippun Firefighter's Picnic

Ecumenical Church service in the park on **July 14**.





ELCA Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly

2019

OVERVIEW

Thank you to everyone who attended Synod Assembly 2019!
We gathered under the theme of **For Everyone Born, A Place At The Table** at the Italian Community Center.
Many of our assembly resources will be online shortly at milwaukee-synod.org.

Election Results

Consultation Committee

- Brent Mitchell
- Rev. John Holm
- Rev. Carol Jeunnette
- Lisa Schulte

Synod Secretary

- Rev. Matthew Schlake-Kruse

Synod Council

- Rev. Kevin Kretzmann Farrar
- Amber Davis
- José Andrés Guerrero
- Sarah Booher
- Rev. Denise Mbise
- Vicki Stretz
- Amber Anderson
- Edwin Aparacio

Offering (Designated for Reconciling in Christ)

Friday Worship: \$2,114.68

VANCO Match: \$500.00

Text-to-Give: \$830.00

TOTAL: \$3,444.68

Participants

Voting members: 366 Non-voting members: 38

- Clergy: 135
- Lay: 231

Youth/Young adults (under 31): 42

TOTAL: 404

Resolution Results

Resolution 1 - Memorial on Gun Violence Prevention: **ADOPTED**

Resolution 2 - Resolution on the Opioid Crisis: **ADOPTED**

Resolution 3 - Memorial on Increasing Participation and Awareness in Social Purpose Funds for All Portico Members: **ADOPTED**

Resolution 4 - Resolution Encouraging Parental Leave Policies in Congregations: **ADOPTED**

Resolution 5 - Resolution to Support Humanitarian aid to Palestinians through the East Jerusalem Hospitals including Augusta Victoria Hospital: **ADOPTED**

Resolution 6 - Memorial on Deportations: **ADOPTED**

Also Adopted:

- 2020-2021 Budget
- Vision, Mission, Values, Practices Statement
- Development of Synod-wide Mission Appeal

